The Evening World.

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ONE REASON WHY.

IN TRYING to explain the shrinkage of income tax collections, no one seems to have given due weight to the new attitude of the public. In the long run this may prove more important than the slump due to "normalcy" business conditions.

In war years the usual attitude of the income taxpayer was liberality. The Government needed money. The "give until it hurts" slogan was heard and had its effect. Many scorned to take all the exemptions the law allowed.

This is all changed. Taxpayers realize the income tax is here to stay. They are educating themselves. Many are keeping exact records of outlay they are permitted to deduct. Others estimate—some liberally.

Luxury, amusement and transportation taxes are worth consideration. Business expenses, State and local taxes, contributions, union dues, &c., are all listed. Taxpayers are less likely to give the Government the benefit of the doubt. They find out before they pay.

This is not tax-dodging. It is merely being fair to oneself.

But it helps to cut the income tax receipts.

Spring fever doesn't seem to spread lassitude in the Amalgamated Union of Thugs, Burglars and Hold-Ups.

THE COUNTRY IS FOR THEM.

THE Senate agreement to vote on the Four-Power Treaty next week assures ratification It is a confession of defeat by the "bitter-enders."

The treaties will be accepted because the country is for them, as it was for the League of Nations when first presented.

A week is not sufficient time to stir up opposition by means of propaganda and flaw-picking. In agreeing to a vote the bitter-enders gave up the fight.

The agreement to vote puts a muzzle on the Hearst-Johnson-Reed school of sabotage.

Too many of the Democratic Senators, it seems, are unable to rise above the natural and human desire for "turn about" in treaty-wrecking. Fortunately, there are others of the stamp of John Sharp Williams, who proudly boasts that he is a Democrat, but adds: "I have no patience with partisanship in dealing with international affairs."

In contrast with Republican obstruction of the Treaty of Versailles, the willingness of the Democrats to permit the Four-Power Treaty to pass shines as a bright spot in our national history.

The golf bug has crawled out of the old caddy bag and is again singing his siren song.

ALPHABET TROUBLES IN BULGARIA.

AT THIS distance the stories of "strikes" and social disturbances in Bulgaria over the dropping of one of the letters of the alphabet are merely amusing and puzzling.

On the surface, it seems comparatively unimportant. The Bulgarian language is both old and new. The present tongue is the outgrowth of one of the oldest of Slavic dialects, but the written language and alphabet have undergone many changes within the last few generations. For example, the encyclopedia states that Russian characters have been added from time to time and other characters dropped.

This may give us clue to the importance of a letter. It may indicate a governmental leaning to or away from this policy or that. A Government favoring a policy of friendship with Russia would be friendly to the retention of Russian characters in the alphabet. An "alphabet strike" may thus be definite political protest—Balkan style.

Here in the United States "simplified spelling" is generally regarded with tolerance if not with approval.

The only change in the alphabet likely to cause heart-burnings in political circles would be the abolition of that vowel which also serves as the pronoun of the first person, singular number.

The Administration and Congress are discovering that when the United States signed a Separate Peace with Germany it signed a Separate Peace.

SWAMPED COURTS AND CRIME WAVES.

IT WOULD be easier to deal with crime in the United States if there were available and inclusive records showing the relation between crime and punishment and demonstrating mathematically the chances of being caught and of being jailed after breaking the law. We must judge the efficiency of courts and Police Departments mainly by hearsay, because there is no official survey on which to rely. But wherever a beginning has been made in collecting criminal statistics they indicate that the uncertainty of the police and the dilatoriness of the courts are essential factors in a crime wave.

In 1920 the Chicago Crime Commission reported that 135 persons indicted for murder were awaiting trial. Of those accused, 104 were out on bail. A number of civil court Judges volunteered to try criminal cases until the docket was cleared, with the startling result that murders in Chicago during the first seven months of the years given dropped from 232 in 1919 to 87 in 1920 and 91 in 1921. On the 3d of last month the number of criminal courts in Philadelphia was doubled and in five weeks the criminal calendar, which had been clogged with enough cases to occupy the year, was ready for current business. It is said that as a consequence the crime wave in Philadelphia is over.

Perhaps it is and perhaps it is not. Crime is no more easily blotted out than poverty. But the courts of New York are clogged at present more completely and hopelessly than were those of Chicago and Philadelphia. Clearing them would not work a miracle but it would help.

JUGGLING.

SENATOR LODGE says the $241,000,000 claim which the United States presented to the Allied Finance Ministers for expenses of American occupation troops on the Rhine "has nothing to do with the Reparations Commission" but rests on the Armistice agreement.

It is true that in the joint resolution approved by President Harding July 2, 1921, by which Congress declared the war between the United States and the Imperial German Government at an end, there appears the following:

> **There are expressly reserved to the United States of America and its nationals any and all rights, privileges, indemnities, reparations or advantages * * * to which it or they have become entitled under the terms of the Armistice signed Nov. 11, 1918. * * ***

But it is also true that the Treaty of Versailles refers to the Armistice as "granted to Germany by the Principal Allied and Associated Powers in order that a Treaty of Peace might be concluded with her."

A Treaty of Peace was concluded with Germany. For the nations that ratified and became parties to that treaty the Armistice ceased to exist. Their relations as former participants in the war were determined thenceforth by the all-embracing terms of the Treaty of Peace signed at Versailles June 28, 1919.

The United States did not become a party to the Treaty of Versailles. The United States only selected and appropriated to itself the benefits of the Treaty of Versailles by coolly specifying them, section and article, in its own separate treaty with Germany.

In talking to the nations that ratified the Treaty of Versailles, does this give the United States the right to take the tone at one moment of an outsider, at another of an insider, as suits its purpose?

Does it give the United States the right to go on indefinitely juggling with an armistice and two treaties in any way that will emphasize other people's obligations and evade its own?

Perhaps Senator Lodge will explain.

ACHES AND PAINS
A Disjointed Column by John Keetz.

An ingenious Jerseyite has invented a novel jewel box. If let alone on the dresser it keeps quiet and well behaved. Pick it up when the alarm is set, it begins to yell with all the energy of a Klaxon horn hidden in its midst. The scared thief is supposed to drop it and run.

•

Choo! Choo! Choo!
Thunder and Mars!
Bang! Bang!
The signal's set.
The train is off.
Listen ye who come to scoff:
Some time, perhaps, if not to-day,
We'll all get home on the E-ray!

P. S.—If there is a second prize for transportation verse, Judge Gary will please forward.

•

Papers say the Government will not question the source of a bootlegger's money paid for income tax. There is no tainted money to a tax-gatherer.

•

Did ye see the big parade?
'Twas the finest ever made;
Marchers proud as proud could be
With a flag at last that's free!

IN THE PUSH.

A Tale of the Tube and Its Terrors.

CHAPTER VI.

He was deceiving himself. They do not get off, they get on.

At 42d Street he was unable to disengage himself from a choice group of young ladies, and saw his dinner fade. Long years between ledger leaves had made him thin, but not thin enough to slip through the crowd. At every station there was a fight, but more always came in than got out. The sides of the car seemed to bulge.

At last—a long at last—far up in the woods came a welcome cry, "All out!"

Percy got out with the others and looked at the bleak landscape.

"I wanted to get out at 42d Street," he said timidly to a big man in uniform.

"Aw, quit yer kickin'," replied he that was addressed. "Can't you ride twenty-nine miles for 5 cents? What more do you ginks want?"

(The End.)

Afraid to Let Go!

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By John Cassel

From Evening World Readers

What kind of letter do you find most readable? Isn't it the one that gives the worth of a thousand words in a couple of hundred? There is fine mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in few words. Take time to be brief.

To Help the Free State.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

I have read your editorial in The Evening World entitled "Look Ahead a Year."

I feel that it is the duty of all Irish sympathizers to support Collins and Griffith in their fight to have the Irish Free State put on a permanent basis. I would suggest that all who wish to support them and who hold bonds issued in the name of the Irish Republic turn them over to Collins and Griffith or their representative for cancellation.

If a considerable number do this it would give the Free State Party a sum sufficient to fight the advocates of the policy so aptly described by Michael Collins as "barren and destructive."

If you think the suggestion worth while kindly pass it along through The Evening World.

I hold a $10 bond which I will willingly turn over, and then I figure I am doing very little.

JOHN TIERNEY.
New York, March 15, 1922.

A Paid Advocate.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Mr. W. H. Anderson is doing what he is paid to do. The more violently he refutes anti-Prohibitionists the more he is paid for the hot air he propounds. But take away the incentive that causes this zealous gentleman to froth at the mouth at the mere mentioning of liquor and it is indeed a question (to me) whether Mr. Anderson would be so eager to air the opinions of the Anti-Saloon League.

His attack of recent date on Bishop Gailor for the latter's freely expressed convictions is pitiful—rather I should say Mr. Anderson is to be pitied.

One of his opponents has called Mr. Anderson "a nut, a void, a zero." Unfortunately, this opponent is given to exaggeration.

G. A. SINGER.
New York, March 12, 1922.

Police and Fire Salaries.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Policemen and firemen are at present paid more than mechanics and the pay assured them the year round.

They are exempt from Federal income tax.

The average time put in all schools by the above is six years.

They pay no carfare.

They do not spend as much as the average civilian in a year for clothes, uniforms lasting three and four years.

Their pay has been increased $789 in four years.

They are better protected than any workingman in the country by insurance, pensions, &c.

Casualties are not any larger than among the average workingmen—which can be proved by statistics.

At present they are paid 50 per cent. more than clerks, bookkeepers, street-cleaners, typists, tenement house inspectors, court attendants in Magistrates' Courts, probation officers and laborers, all in city departments.

Ninety per cent. of those who borrow do so in order to buy property, &c.

If they cannot get along on their present salaries, how does the average workingman who is compelled to deduct from his salary insurance, benevolent fees and cost of clothes get along on $24 to$36 per week?

A RENT PAYER.
New York, March 14, 1922.

Doesn't Know of Anderson?

To the Editor of The Evening World:

It is with great interest that I read Margaret Christian's letter in your issue of to-day, in which she complained that Bishop Gailor did not know who Mr. Anderson of the Anti-Saloon League was. Thrice fortunate Bishop! What, indeed, must be the consolations of a religion which fills the mind and soul to such an extent as to preclude all knowledge of the petty annoyances which afflict the rest of American humanity!

Perhaps Bishop Gailor is also fortunate enough never to have heard of the Volstead act, and mayhap he still believes American citizens are entitled to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Cannot one be forgiven for envying such felicity as his? At least one can admire his courage in expressing his opinions, in which he is certainly not alone.

M. R. LIBBEY.
New York, March 10, 1922.

The Bootleg Tax.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

At a recent dinner I proposed to serve the ladies with an excellent wine, assuming that they would prefer it to whiskey. But when I put the question of preference, every woman declared for a highball. I conclude from this that we are fast forming a taste for concentrated liquor. Good wine can be made and is made in Painted Post and Hog Hollow at slight cost. Bootleg whiskey costs $8 a quart, from which the Government gets nothing, not even an income tax, while I have to pay five kinds of taxes besides the bootleg tax.

I wonder if people know that this bootleg tax is $1,500,000,000 annually and that we all have to contribute. It is added to all we eat, to all we wear, even to Aunt Jerusha's gingham apron up in Horseheads. And she votes for it just because she thinks it keeps the village drunk out of jug. But does it?

W. L.

UNCOMMON SENSE
By John Blake

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NOTHING IS CHEAPER THAN EDUCATION.

Envying the educated is stupid. Education is so cheap that there is little excuse for not having at least a fair one.

The fact that boys and girls with nothing but what they earn, and that very little, are busily securing educations is sufficient proof of that.

It is a fine thing to go to college if you can. It is a pleasant thing to go to college at somebody's else expense.

But thousands of young men and young women are earning their own way through college. Tens of thousands of others are getting educations without any college at all.

If you knew just exactly how many of the men and women you know to be educated got their own educations you would probably be very much astonished.

How they got them they will always be willing to tell you. The self-made man is proud of his job, if it is a good one, and he is eager to tell the world how it was done.

If you want to see education in the making go into the libraries and note the people taking out books or bending over them in the reading rooms.

A few of these people are natural bookworms. A part of them are getting books as "time killers," but the majority are bent on self-education and have discovered how cheaply it is to be had.

These people not only read books but they ask the advice of educated people about what books to read.

Also they read the newspapers and keep informed on what is going on in the world.

Such an education is easily founded, and it grows with the years and with the studiousness of the individual.

A little knowledge begets a desire for more knowledge, and a great deal of knowledge begets a desire for wisdom, which is the object of all education.

If you really want an education you can get one, and get it at an astonishingly small price in money. It will take time, of course, but you are as rich in time as anybody else, and therefore have an equal chance at a price about the fountain of learning.

MONEY TALKS.
By HERBERT BENINGTON.

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WHY?

Some one asked why these "Talks" were not started during "Thrift Week." The reason is they were not ready.

People always seem to want to start adjustments at some designated time during the year. They do not go so far as to start smiling in "Smile Week." However, many of us know the man who about the first of December decides to give up smoking or drinking for the New Year. If smoking or drinking is harmful to him, why wait until the New Year to give it up?

The same applies to saving or thrift. It is helpful in August or April and the money saved in June is just as helpful as that saved during "Thrift Week" in January, except that by the time January comes around it has earned half a year's interest.

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT WORD?

144—FILIBUSTER.

Originally of English origin, the word "Filibuster" was incorporated into their own language by the Spaniards in the form "filibote" or "flibote." The Spanish word is a corruption of the English word "flyboat."

The name was especially applied to the Lopez piratical expedition to Cuba in 1851, and to the followers of "Gen." William Walker, who terrorized Central America until their chief was captured and shot in 1860.

In parliamentary language, a filibuster is a resort to irregular means to impede or defeat legislation. The use of such methods implies the assumption that those who resort to it are Congressional pirates. But the sinister meaning of the word has gradually disintegrated.

TURNING THE PAGES
—BY— E. W. Osborn

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I WEAR a red rose for my love
Who walks with me life's crowded sphere;
I wear it for an outward sign
That always I shall hold her dear.
But in my heart, close-hid from view,
I keep a clean, white rose for you.

A red flame burns within my soul
And through mine eyes men see that flame;
It keeps life's purpose straight and high,
Within its light can come no shame.
But in my soul, bright-burning too,
I keep a white flame lit for you.

A red dream leaps and rules my brain
And colors all my days with fire;
Men pause to praise and envy me,
For that I pluck the world's desire,
But ah, they cannot pierce me through
To see this white dream shaped for you!

Thus, in "Veils of Samite" (Small-Maynard) J. Corson Miller sings apparently of a heart-war of the roses.

* * *

Proback on a Woman's Club. . . .

When, in Arnold Bennett's "Mr. Prohack" (Doran) Mrs. Prohack proposes to give up her club as a measure of thrift, this is the husband's rejoinder:

> You scarcely ever speak to a soul in your club. The food's bad in your club. They drink liqueurs before dinner at your club. I've seen 'em.
>
> Your club's full every night of the most formidable spinsters, each eating at a table alone.
>
> Give up your club by all means. Set fire to it and burn it down. But don't count the act as a renunciation. You hate your club.

And yet Mr. Prohack proclaims himself a romanticist still, after twenty-four years' of marriage.

What is the answer? We ask Milady of the Vote and the Latchkey.

* * *

Thyroid and the Lady. . . .

Turning casually a page of Dr. Louis Berman's "The Glands Regulating Personality" (MacMillans), we read:

> Christina may be adrenal cortex centred and so masculinoid: courageous, sporty, mannish in her tastes, aggressive towards her companions.
>
> Dorothea may have a balanced thyroid and pituitary, and so lead the class as good-looking, studious, bright, serene, and mature.
>
> Florence, who has rather more thyroid than her pituitary can balance, will be bright but flighty, gay but moody, energetic, but not persevering.

Enter L. U. E., the vaudeville minstrel singing blithely, "My gal's a thyroid lady."

* * *

Grinning Out Trouble. . . .

Among the verses of "Me.—in War Goin' On" (Cornhill), by John Palmer Cumming, we find this:

There ain't no troubles under the sun
But what I've had 'em, every one;
Sicknesses have come and went,—
Money earned was money spent,—
Girls I love have flung me down,
Them I don't still hang around,—
But I reckon, when I'm through
I'll have grinned as much as you.

We dearly love a soul cheerful amid troubles.

But there is no grin so wide and willing as to mellow the income tax reckoning.

* * *

In Our Vertical City. . . .

In "The Vertical City," a novel (Harpers), Fanny Hurst runs to this:

> In the most vertical city in the world men have run up their dreams and their ambitions into slim skyscrapers that seem to exclaim at the audacity of the mere mortar that sustains them.
>
> Minarets appear almost to tamper with the stars; towers to impale the moon.
>
> All who would see the sky must gaze upward between these rockets of frenzied architecture, which are as beautiful as the terrific can ever be beautiful.
>
> It is well in the vertical city if the eyes and the heart have a lift to them, because, after all, these bits of cup-up infinitude, as many shaped as cookies, even when seen from a tenement window and to the accompaniment of crick in the neck, are as full of mysterious alchemy over men's hearts as the desert sky or the sea sky.

What reader of these lines will volunteer to read them out loud to such as would clamp a height limit to the skyscraper in New York?

* * *

Prohibition as a Mixer. . . .

"Gold-Killer," a novel of New York, by John Prosper (Doran), offers these paragraphs of special local interest:

> It has been constantly seen that the various pressures of the law in recent years have driven illicit trades from their specialized centres into the breadth of the community.
>
> The community in New York is a matter of apartment houses. The illicit trades have taken to flat life. So has the entire netherworld now taken to flat life.
>
> The crooks of the romances who used to congregate in their favorite saloons and mutter across tables in dingy back rooms now meet and talk in "four rooms and bath."
>
> The public hangout is in the great crowd on Broadway. Certain addresses are passwords for the con fraternities, one for forgers, another for sneak thieves, and the trail leads from Broadway to the well-furnished apartment houses where any one of the boys may go and find half a dozen members of his profession.
>
> With this the crook has become an ordinary citizen of the Broadwayite persuasion.
>
> In the low saloon he dressed appropriately to the place, with cap and sweater. Now he dresses like any one else.
>
> His old marks are gone. He looks like an ordinary saunterer along Broadway, and imitates the looks and clothes of the cheap actor.

"Then Prohibition came," writes this John Prosper.

We see. The Volstead mixer.